USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service

Indiana Crop & Weather Report

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CROP REPORT FOR WEEK ENDING SEPTEMBER 20

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY

Lack of moisture and warm temperatures during the week forced the major field crops closer to maturity, according to the Indiana Field Office of USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. A few of the earliest planted corn and soybean fields have been harvested with widely varying yields being reported. Many farmers were making final preparations to harvesting equipment and cleaning out grain bins. Harvest of corn silage continues especially in northern counties.

FIELD CROPS REPORT

There were 6.6 **days suitable for field work** during the week. **Corn condition** is rated 62 percent good to excellent compared with 53 percent last year at this time. Seventy-two percent of the corn is in the **dent** stage compared to 87 percent last year and 94 percent for the 5-year average. Fourteen percent of the corn crop is **mature** compared to 37 percent last year and 57 percent for the 5-year average.

Soybean condition is rated 59 percent good to excellent compared with 46 percent last year at this time. Forty percent of the soybean acreage is **shedding leaves** compared with 56 percent last year and 66 percent for the 5-year average.

The **third cutting** of **alfalfa hay** is 95 percent complete compared with 99 percent for both last year and the 5-year average. **Tobacco harvest** is 61 percent complete compared with 55 percent last year and 59 percent for the 5-year average.

LIVESTOCK, PASTURE AND RANGE REPORT

Pasture condition declined from last week and is now rated 54 percent good to excellent compared with 30 percent last year at this time. Livestock remain in mostly good condition.

CROP PROGRESS TABLE

Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Year Avg.
	Percent			
Corn in Dough	96	94	99	100
Corn in Dent	72	60	87	94
Corn Mature	14	7	37	57
Soybeans Shedding Lvs	40	15	56	66
Alfalfa – 3rd Cutting	95	90	99	99
Tobacco Harvested	61	44	55	59

CROP CONDITION TABLE

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excel-lent
			Percent		
Corn	3	8	27	50	12
Soybean	3	10	28	48	11
Pasture	4	11	31	43	11

SOIL MOISTURE & DAYS SUITABLE FOR FIELDWORK TABLE

	This Week	Last Week	Last Year
		Percent	
Topsoil			
Very Short	9	4	9
Short	36	28	30
Adequate	53	64	58
Surplus	2	4	3
Subsoil			
Very Short	6	4	10
Short	31	26	29
Adequate	62	66	58
Surplus	1	4	3
Days Suitable	6.6	6.0	5.8

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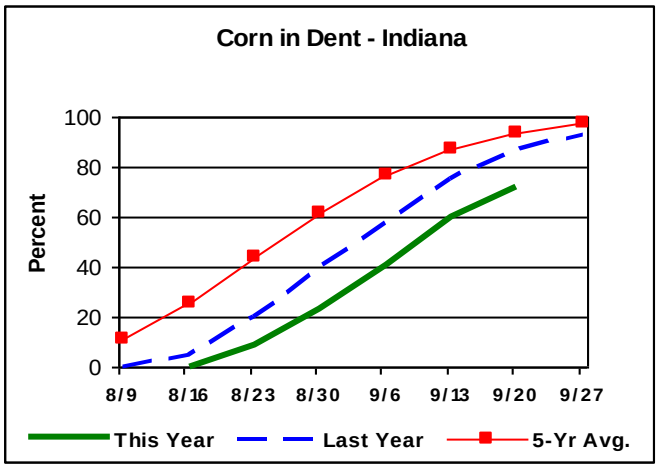
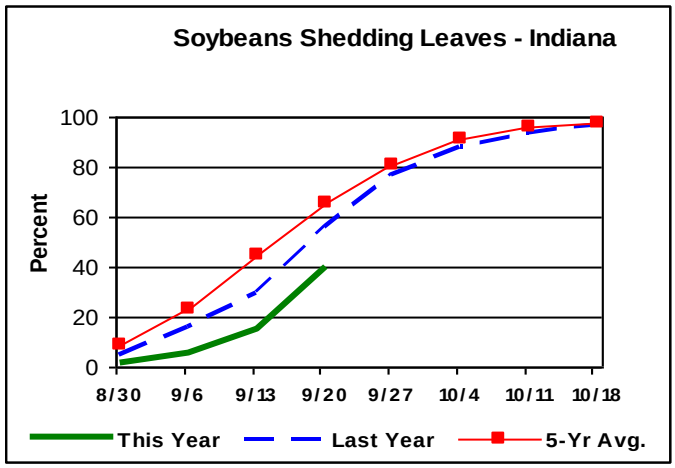
http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/Indiana/





Other Agricultural Comments And News

Wheat Planting Considerations: Impacts of 2009 Crop Harvests (Sept. 16)

Planting wheat in Indiana usually depends on three main factors: Hessian fly-free date, harvest of corn and soybean, and the weather. Weather conditions were just right for head scab infection in many wheat fields this spring and could reduce seed quality. The wet spring and cool temperatures in July and August have delayed and potentially reduced yield of the corn and soybean crops (related articles at <http://www.kingcorn.org/cafe>.Additionally, delayed harvests of corn and soybean will certainly be of interest to planting dates of soft red wheat in Indiana.

Planting Date

The optimal planting date for wheat in Indiana is within 7 to 14 days after the average Hessian fly-free date, which is presented in Figure 1(which can be viewed at: http:extension.entm.purdue.edu/pestcrop /2009/issue24/index.html, page 6). Early planting of wheat increases the probability of infestation by Hessian flies, which lay eggs that hatch and the larvae (maggots) feed on young wheat seedlings (for more information please visit <http://www.extension.entm .purdue.edu/fieldcropsipm/insects/hessianfly.html> The risk for disease infection in the fall increases with early planting, especially for seedling blights in warm soils (> 60°F) and barley yellow dwarf virus that is transmitted by aphids. In contrast, late-planted wheat often has limited vegetative growth (i.e., tillering) that can decrease winter survivability, increase the susceptibility of winter heaving, and reduce yield. Wheat yields may be reduced 10 to 20% if planting is delayed up to 30 days after the Hessian fly-free date.

For example, the Hessian fly-free date in Whitley County (northeastern Indiana) would be ~September 24, and wheat should ideally be planted by October 7 to minimize stresses and maximize yield potential. Some soybean fields in Whitely County are at full seed (R6) today, September 16, and will begin physiological maturity (R7) by October 4 based on average soybean development (~18 days from R6 to R7). Hence, the window for optimal planting of wheat can be short due to the delayed soybean maturity. This is a concern in the northern and central areas of Indiana. However, some combines have been cutting soybeans in Tippecanoe County and timely planting of wheat is still possible.

Seeding Rate

Optimum yields are normally obtained at plant populations of 1.3 to 1.5 million plants per acre (30 to 35 plants per ft2). The amount of seed needed to obtain this stand would vary depending on the seed size, germination test, and emergence potential (factors include planting date, planting equipment, and seed bed conditions).

Wheat seed that has 90% germination value and the field conditions are such that 90% of the viable seed will emerge equals 81% of the planted seed will establish plants (90% germinate x 90% emerge = 81% establish). The seeding rate to obtain 1.5 million plants per acre would be 1.85 million seeds per acre, and it is calculated as follows: [(1.5 million plants per acre) / (81% plant establishment) = 1.85 million seeds per acre]. The number of pounds per acre will increase as the seed size increases, so the seeding rate of 1.85 million seeds per acre will require 115, 132, and 154 lb per acre for small (16,000 seeds per lb), medium (14,000 seeds per lb), and large seeds (12,000 seeds per lb), respectively. Plant population of 1.3 million per acre would require 1.6 million seeds per acre if 81% plant establishment was used, and small, medium,and large seeds would be planted at 100, 114, and 133 lb per acre, respectively. Seeding rate would decrease if plant establishment values increased (e.g., higher germination values, optimal soil moisture, optimal soil temperature, use of seed treatments). If you are planting in an area that is prone to winter heaving and winter kill can be

(Continued on Page 4)

Weather Information Table

Week Ending Sunday September 20, 2009

Station	Past Week Weather Summary Data							Accumulation				
								April 1, 2009 thru September 20, 2009				
	Air Temperature				Precip.		Avg 4in Soil	Precipitation			GDD Base 50°F	
	Hi	Lo	Avg	DFN	Total	Days	Temp	Total	DFN	Days	Total	DFN
Northwest (1)												
Chalmers_5W	83	42	63	-3	0.00	0		20.36	-0.86	64	2474	-429
Francesville	84	39	63	-2	0.00	0		21.35	-0.05	60	2428	-240
Valparaiso_AP_I	82	43	64	+0	0.00	0		17.32	-5.40	61	2562	-89
Wanatah	83	37	61	-3	0.00	0	71	20.88	-1.14	67	2305	-229
Winamac	83	45	64	+0	0.00	0	71	17.44	-3.96	58	2506	-162
North Central(2)												
Plymouth	83	44	63	-3	0.00	0		20.19	-1.54	80	2428	-376
South_Bend	82	42	64	+1	0.00	0		23.59	+2.49	61	2555	-78
Young_America	83	45	63	-2	0.00	0		19.33	-1.31	48	2526	-230
Northeast (3)												
Fort_Wayne	83	44	64	+0	0.00	0		20.89	+1.80	62	2661	-95
Kendallville	83	50	66	+2	0.06	1		18.33	-1.62	73	2714	+124
West Central(4)												
Greencastle	83	46	64	-4	0.00	0		29.79	+5.78	69	2495	-609
Perrysville	85	44	65	-1	0.00	0	69	29.56	+6.91	62	2815	-75
Spencer_Ag	84	48	66	+0	0.00	0		30.66	+6.39	67	2790	-128
Terre_Haute_AFB	84	45	66	-2	0.00	0		22.61	-0.09	57	3040	-42
W_Lafayette_6NW	84	42	64	-2	0.00	0	75	24.74	+3.55	62	2664	-77
Central (5)												
Eagle_Creek_AP	85	52	69	+3	0.00	0		27.20	+5.93	63	3053	-3
Greenfield	83	48	65	-1	0.00	0		32.18	+8.92	66	2718	-220
Indianapolis_AP	85	52	70	+4	0.00	0		30.42	+9.15	61	3161	+105
Indianapolis_SE	83	50	66	-1	0.00	0		33.16	+11.42	65	2722	-326
Tipton_Ag	84	46	63	-1	0.00	0	77	25.15	+3.64	66	2547	-112
East Central(6)												
Farmland	84	42	63	+0	0.00	0	72	17.45	-3.50	63	2595	-3
New_Castle	82	48	64	-1	0.00	0		23.58	+1.30	64	2487	-175
Southwest (7)												
Evansville	86	57	72	+4	0.13	1		27.01	+5.60	63	3589	+49
Freelandville	82	54	68	+1	0.00	0		30.94	+8.63	63	3127	-56
Shoals_8S	82	47	67	+0	1.00	1		31.77	+7.62	59	2844	-243
Stendal	83	54	70	+2	0.53	1		33.88	+9.85	60	3494	+154
Vincennes_5NE	84	51	70	+3	0.64	1	77	29.61	+7.30	65	3259	+76
South Central(8)												
Leavenworth	83	54	70	+4	0.32	2		31.07	+6.58	87	3142	+75
Oolitic	83	50	67	+2	0.02	1	70	27.37	+4.23	71	2888	-62
Tell_City	85	57	72	+3	0.09	1		26.45	+1.85	59	3391	-24
Southeast (9)												
Brookville	84	51	67	+3	0.00	0		25.65	+3.18	63	2933	+130
Greensburg	84	51	67	+3	0.00	0		32.04	+9.38	69	3058	+195
Seymour	82	49	66	+0	0.00	0		29.98	+7.90	58	2827	-116

DFN = Departure From Normal.
GDD = Growing Degree Days.
Precipitation (Rainfall or melted snow/ice) in inches.
Precipitation Days = Days with precip of .01 inch or more.
Air Temperatures in Degrees Fahrenheit.

For more weather information, visit www.awis.com
or call 1-888-798-9955.

problematic, you should aim for 35 plants per ft2. Late plantings of wheat should also increase the desired seeding rate to compensate for the limited time for adequate tillering.

Seed Depth

Seed placement is important for emergence, plant stand, and winter hardiness. Seeding depths around 1" are ideal, and an acceptable range is 0.75 to 1.25." If the seeds are planted too deep, the seed uses much of its energy to emerge with little reserves left for establishment. Shallow planting enables quick emergence provided soil moisture is adequate. However, if the root system does not fully develop the crop will be susceptible to stresses in water and nutrient availability. Shallow root systems will not anchor the plants and will be prone to heaving during freezing-thawing cycles. Thus, it is critical to calibrate planting equipment (e.g., replace worn seed openers, calibrate depth control, adjust coulters to cut through crop residue) and control planting speeds to maintain seed placement.

Seed Source

Seed treatments with fungicides should prove beneficial this year as wheat plantings could be delayed. Head scab was prevalent in many wheat producing areas during the 2009 harvest, so be on the lookout for scabby wheat especially in bin-run wheat. I recommend planting certified seed to sidestep the issues of planting scabby wheat—reduced vigor, poor germination, and source of disease. Scab-infected seeds and "tombstones" will NOT germinate, and seed treatments will NOT bring them back to life. Bin-run wheat should be thoroughly cleaned to ensure purity and to reduce scabby wheat. This seed should also be tested for germination and treated with fungicides labeled for Fusarium graminearum, the causal agent of head scab, to help protect uninfected seeds from early season infection. The seed treatment will not prevent head scab next spring since head scab depends on weather conditions at the time of flowering, previous crop, and varietal susceptibility.

Written by Shaun Casteel, Department of Agronomy, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN 47907. In order to view an Indiana map showing the many average Hessian fly-free dates, go to http:extension.entm.purdue.edu/pestcrop/2009/issue24/index.html

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